

part that determines an amount of correction for the base value on the basis of physical quantity regarding the steering angle, and estimates the curve's radius by correcting the base value with the amount of correction" as recited in independent claim 1.

As can be seen in Fig. 1 of Butsuen, the output of the Velocity Sensor 6 and the Yaw Rate Sensor 7 are used to determine a Second Traveling-Path Prediction 9 (see also col. 3, line 62 to col 4, line 15). However, Butsuen does not disclose an amount of correction for the base value on the basis of physical quantity regarding the steering angle. The Examiner's interpretation of Butsuen is flawed. Instead, Butsuen discloses a selecting unit 10 that is adapted to select which of two Traveling-Path Prediction (8 and 9) is most accurate for a given situation (see col. 4, lines 15-20). Thus, Butsuen merely discloses selecting a traveling-path based on the magnitude of the steering angle θ_H , and Butsuen does not disclose determining an amount of correction based on the steering angle or correcting a base value with the amount of correction. Accordingly, as agreed during the personal interview, Butsuen does not disclose all the features recited in independent claim 1, and thus, the rejection is defective.

Applicants do not concede that Butsuen discloses the features of the other dependent claims under rejection. However, it is unnecessary to separately discuss the other dependent claims given the existence of clear distinguishing features in claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:

Petition for Extension of Time

Date: December 31, 2007

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